

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Department of Energy & Environment



Department of Energy & Environment Recreational Angling Records - Official Rules

I. OFFICIAL RULES

1. To be considered for a District of Columbia recreational angling record or certificate the following conditions shall be satisfied:
 - a. Fish shall be caught in District waters;
 - b. Fish shall be a species commonly pursued with a rod and reel;
 - c. The fish shall have been caught by a legal angler;
 - d. Fish shall be caught in accordance with angling methods and regulations in 19 DCMR § 1502;
 - e. Fish shall be caught during an open season in the District posted by DOEE;
 - f. With the exception of injury that may have occurred during landing, or tags that may have been placed on the fish by a managing enterprise, the catch shall not have been altered in any way from its natural integrity;
 - g. Anglers shall complete and sign a Fishing Records Intake Form. Forms may be found online at <http://www.doe.dc.gov>. Please select Fisheries and Wildlife;
 - h. The gear used to land the fish shall be presented to, and inspected by a DOEE Biologist;
 - i. Prospective entries shall be submitted to DOEE within seventy-two (72) hours of the catch; and,
 - j. All fish shall be identified by a DOEE Biologist.
2. Fish caught in private ponds, lakes, or impoundments are only eligible to receive a certificate.
3. District angling records shall be based solely on weight.
4. Scale operators shall complete and sign a Fishing Records Weight Intake Form. This form shall also be signed by a witness.

5. Certificates shall be based solely on length.
6. All catches are subject to inspection by DOEE Biologists or certified agents.
7. DOEE maintains the right to investigate or reject any certification that appears to be erroneous or fraudulent.
8. Record categories are as follows: Youth (age 15 years and younger); Adult (age 16 years to 64 years); and Senior (age 65 years and older).

II. PHOTO ENTRY CERTIFICATES

1. Anglers may submit a photo entry to receive a certificate provided that a full length photo of the fish next to a standard United States measuring instrument is submitted to DOEE.
2. The photo shall not be altered in any way.
3. Please submit photos via email to sean.doyle@dc.gov and wanda.payne@dc.gov.

III. HELPFUL HINTS

1. To report a potential record catch please contact Sean Doyle by phone at 202-306-7373 or via email at sean.doyle@dc.gov.
2. Record an unofficial weight prior to reporting your catch.
3. Consult the current records after recording an unofficial weight and prior to contacting DOEE. Current records may be found online at <http://www.doe.dc.gov>. Select Fisheries & Wildlife.
4. If an official weight cannot be obtained in a reasonable amount of time, then pack the catch in ice until an official weight can be obtained.
5. Links to official weigh stations may be found online at <http://www.doe.dc.gov>. Select Fisheries & Wildlife.

IV. MINIMUM LENGTH CONSIDERATIONS

Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	Length (in.)^
Alewife ^X	<i>Alosa pseudoharengus</i>	
American Eel [#]	<i>Anguilla rostrata</i>	28
American Shad ^X	<i>Alosa sapidissima</i>	
Atlantic Sturgeon ^X	<i>Acipenser oxyrinchus</i>	
Black Crappie [#]	<i>Pomoxis nigromaculatus</i>	13
Blue Catfish ⁺	<i>Ictalurus furcatus</i>	40
Blueback Herring ^X	<i>Alosa aestivalis</i>	
Bluegill ⁺	<i>Lepomis macrochirus</i>	8
Brook Trout	<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>	No Limit
Brown Bullhead [#]	<i>Ameiurus nebulosus</i>	12
Brown Trout	<i>Salmo trutta</i>	No Limit
Chain Pickerel ^X	<i>Esox reticulatus</i>	
Channel Catfish [#]	<i>Ictalurus punctatus</i>	30
Common Carp ⁺	<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>	36
Gizzard Shad ⁺	<i>Dorosoma cepedianum</i>	19
Golden Redhorse ⁺	<i>Moxostoma erythrurum</i>	20
Green Sunfish ⁺	<i>Lepomis cyanellus</i>	8
Hickory Shad ^X	<i>Alosa mediocris</i>	
Lamprey ⁺	<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>	
Largemouth Bass [#]	<i>Micropterus salmoides</i>	19
Longear Sunfish ⁺	<i>Lepomis megalotis</i>	8
Longnose Gar ⁺	<i>Lepisosteus osseus</i>	40
Muskellunge [#]	<i>Esox masquinongy</i>	24
Northern Snakehead ⁺	<i>Channa argus</i>	30
Pumpkinseed ⁺	<i>Lepomis gibbosus</i>	8
Quillback Carpsucker ⁺	<i>Carpionodes cyprinus</i>	20
Rainbow Trout	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	No Limit
Redbreast Sunfish ⁺	<i>Lepomis auritus</i>	8
Redear Sunfish ⁺	<i>Lepomis microlophus</i>	10
Rock Bass ⁺	<i>Ambloplites rupestris</i>	10
Shortnose Sturgeon ^X	<i>Acipenser brevirostrum</i>	
Smallmouth Bass [#]	<i>Micropterus dolomieu</i>	17
Striped Bass [@]	<i>Morone saxatilis</i>	36
Walleye [#]	<i>Sander vitreus</i>	20
White Catfish [#]	<i>Ictalurus catus</i>	15
White Crappie [#]	<i>Proximus annularis</i>	13
White Perch [#]	<i>Morone americana</i>	11
White Sucker ⁺	<i>Catostomus commersonii</i>	20
Yellow Bullhead [#]	<i>Ameiurus natalis</i>	12
Yellow Perch [#]	<i>Perca flavescens</i>	12

- # - Open season with restrictions. Please consult the District fishing guide.
 X - Moratorium. Species is ineligible for record retention.
 + - Open season without restrictions.
 ~ - All lengths shall be considered unofficial.
 @ - Size and season restrictions. Please consult the District fishing guide.

V. MINIMUM WEIGHT CONSIDERATIONS

Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	Adult/Senior (lbs.)	Youth (lbs.)
Alewife ^X	<i>Alosa pseudoharengus</i>		
American Eel [#]	<i>Anguilla rostrata</i>	2	1 ½
American Shad ^X	<i>Alosa sapidissima</i>		
Atlantic Sturgeon ^X	<i>Acipenser oxyrinchus</i>		
Black Crappie [#]	<i>Pomoxis nigromaculatus</i>	1	¾
Blue Catfish ⁺	<i>Ictalurus furcatus</i>	40	30
Blueback Herring ^X	<i>Alosa aestivalis</i>		
Bluegill ⁺	<i>Lepomis macrochirus</i>	½	½
Brook Trout	<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>	none	none
Brown Bullhead [#]	<i>Ameiurus nebulosus</i>	1	¾
Brown Trout	<i>Salmo trutta</i>	none	none
Chain Pickerel ^X	<i>Esox reticulatus</i>		
Channel Catfish [#]	<i>Ictalurus punctatus</i>	6	5
Common Carp ⁺	<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>	15	12
Gizzard Shad ⁺	<i>Dorosoma cepedianum</i>	2	1 ½
Golden Redhorse ⁺	<i>Moxostoma erythrurum</i>	3	2
Green Sunfish ⁺	<i>Lepomis cyanellus</i>	½	½
Hickory Shad ^X	<i>Alosa mediocris</i>		
Lamprey ⁺	<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>	1	1
Largemouth Bass [#]	<i>Micropterus salmoides</i>	5	4
Longear Sunfish ⁺	<i>Lepomis megalotis</i>	½	½
Longnose Gar ⁺	<i>Lepisosteus osseus</i>	7	5
Muskellunge [#]	<i>Esox masquinongy</i>	10	8
Northern Snakehead ⁺	<i>Channa argus</i>	8	6
Pumpkinseed ⁺	<i>Lepomis gibbosus</i>	½	½
Quillback Carpsucker ⁺	<i>Carpionodes cyprinus</i>	3	3
Rainbow Trout	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	none	none
Redbreast Sunfish ⁺	<i>Lepomis auritus</i>	½	½
Redear Sunfish ⁺	<i>Lepomis microlophus</i>	½	½
Rock Bass ⁺	<i>Ambloplites rupestris</i>	½	½
Shortnose Sturgeon ^X	<i>Acipenser brevirostrum</i>		
Smallmouth Bass [#]	<i>Micropterus dolomieu</i>	3	2
Striped Bass [@]	<i>Morone saxatilis</i>	25	20
Walleye [#]	<i>Sander vitreus</i>	6	5
White Catfish [#]	<i>Ictalurus catus</i>	2	1 ½
White Crappie [#]	<i>Proximus annularis</i>	1	¾
White Perch [#]	<i>Morone americana</i>	½	½
White Sucker ⁺	<i>Catostomus commersonii</i>	2	2
Yellow Bullhead [#]	<i>Ameiurus natalis</i>	1	1
Yellow Perch [#]	<i>Perca flavescens</i>	¾	¾

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VI. CURRENT DISTRICT RECORDS

Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	Weight (lbs.)
Alewife ^X	<i>Alosa pseudoharengus</i>	
American Eel [#]	<i>Anguilla rostrata</i>	Vacant
American Shad ^X	<i>Alosa sapidissima</i>	
Atlantic Sturgeon ^X	<i>Acipenser oxyrinchus</i>	
Black Crappie [#]	<i>Pomoxis nigromaculatus</i>	Vacant
Blue Catfish ⁺	<i>Ictalurus furcatus</i>	Vacant
Blueback Herring ^X	<i>Alosa aestivalis</i>	
Bluegill ⁺	<i>Lepomis macrochirus</i>	Vacant
Brook Trout	<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>	Vacant
Brown Bullhead [#]	<i>Ameiurus nebulosus</i>	Vacant
Brown Trout	<i>Salmo trutta</i>	Vacant
Chain Pickerel ^X	<i>Esox reticulatus</i>	
Channel Catfish [#]	<i>Ictalurus punctatus</i>	Vacant
Common Carp ⁺	<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>	Vacant
Gizzard Shad ⁺	<i>Dorosoma cepedianum</i>	Vacant
Golden Redhorse ⁺	<i>Moxostoma erythrurum</i>	Vacant
Green Sunfish ⁺	<i>Lepomis cyanellus</i>	Vacant
Hickory Shad ^X	<i>Alosa mediocris</i>	
Lamprey ⁺	<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>	Vacant
Largemouth Bass [#]	<i>Micropterus salmoides</i>	Vacant
Longear Sunfish ⁺	<i>Lepomis megalotis</i>	Vacant
Longnose Gar ⁺	<i>Lepisosteus osseus</i>	Vacant
Muskellunge [#]	<i>Esox masquinongy</i>	Vacant
Northern Snakehead ⁺	<i>Channa argus</i>	Vacant
Pumpkinseed ⁺	<i>Lepomis gibbosus</i>	Vacant
Quillback Carpsucker ⁺	<i>Carpionodes cyprinus</i>	Vacant
Rainbow Trout	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	Vacant
Redbreast Sunfish ⁺	<i>Lepomis auritus</i>	Vacant
Redear Sunfish ⁺	<i>Lepomis microlophus</i>	Vacant
Rock Bass ⁺	<i>Ambloplites rupestris</i>	Vacant
Shortnose Sturgeon ^X	<i>Acipenser brevirostrum</i>	
Smallmouth Bass [#]	<i>Micropterus dolomieu</i>	Vacant
Striped Bass [@]	<i>Morone saxatilis</i>	Vacant
Walleye [#]	<i>Sander vitreus</i>	Vacant
White Catfish [#]	<i>Ictalurus catus</i>	Vacant
White Crappie [#]	<i>Proximus annularis</i>	Vacant
White Perch [#]	<i>Morone americana</i>	Vacant
White Sucker ⁺	<i>Catostomus commersonii</i>	Vacant
Yellow Bullhead [#]	<i>Ameiurus natalis</i>	Vacant
Yellow Perch [#]	<i>Perca flavescens</i>	Vacant

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VII. WEIGH-IN LOCATIONS

Location	Address	Phone	Hours	Boat Access
Department of the Energy & Environment, Aquatic Resources Education Center	1900 Anacostia Dr., SE, Washington, DC 20019	202-306-7373	Please call	canoe, kayak, row, power

§ 8-103.03. Protection of aquatic life

- (a) While regulating against water pollution and except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, the Mayor shall protect aquatic animals and plants, and shall preserve and restore aquatic life in District waters for aesthetic enjoyment, for recreation, and for industry.
- (b) (1) The Mayor shall study the number and the well-being of aquatic plants and animals, and shall determine the need to license or otherwise limit fishing and other forms of hunting, sports or industry which take or destroy aquatic life or the aquatic habitat. The Mayor shall consider the economic impact upon the various segments of the public before establishing fees for licenses.
- (2) The Mayor may establish fishing seasons and other seasons for hunting, sports or industry, which take or destroy aquatic life or the aquatic habitat.
- (3) Revenues from licensing regulatory schemes under this section shall not be used for purposes other than the administration and management of the District's fisheries and wildlife resources. License fees paid by anglers and other users of these resources shall not be used for purposes other than the administration of the District's Fisheries and Wildlife Division.
- (c) The Mayor may enter into agreements with state and federal agencies to manage and protect aquatic life.
- (d) The Mayor may protect against aquatic life which creates a nuisance in the District.